Santa Catalina Bighorn Sheep Reintroduction Advisory Committee 12/03/13

Media Messaging:

Raul spoke about the committee working together for the sheep and the need to develop a plan to work through this situation.

Brian Dolan asked why a press release issued on the mortalities.

Mark Hart, it was released per department policy.

The department needs to maintain transparency

Mark has been fielding numerous media requests since release went out

Sergio made a motion to edit ground rule #12 to state no press releases until after the committee meets to review.

Commissioner Harris: set a standard set of releases after any incident occurs. Don't put out all of the details

Developed protocol for media relations

Weekly statement briefing unless public safety or critical event occurs

We have to the media aware that this is a different process and will be weekly status updates

Don't volunteer information

Who is responsible for updates

Updates lag a week, updates info is from Wed. to the next Wed.

Put information in proper context

One member of the committee and department rep to write status reports

Media request in writing and copied to all committee members for approval

Raul will take protocol to Phoenix for Director's approval

First status update tentatively set for next Friday 12/13/13

Can committee help with mortality signals, volunteers could check signals with VHF radio? There is a radio at the Golder Ranch Fire Department.

The collars have a cycle, (8a.m. to 2 p.m.) if no movement is detected during that cycle a mortality signal is issued. The mortality cycle overrides the normal, if during the mortality cycle there is 15 minutes of movement the collar reverts back to the normal cycle.

John McGehee and Martin Guerena gave an status report on the 2 mortalities and the lion kills. They provided the committee with photo evidence of lion predation on the sheep.

Joe will send protocol out tomorrow for review, due back by Thurs.

Next Meeting 1/7/14.